



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8C

Resolution #ANC8C-08-4-2021

Gun Violence Reduction

Adopted August 4, 2021

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Gun violence is inflicting a devastating toll on the residents of not only Ward 8, but the entire District of Columbia. Research suggests that youth exposed to violent acts become more likely to obtain guns themselves for self-defense and are also more likely to be willing to use violence themselves. Access to guns increases the likelihood of fatal domestic violence incidents, as well. Intimate partner assaults are 12 times more likely to result in death when a gun is involved. As it pertains to women victims of domestic violence, they are five times more likely to be killed if the person abusing them has access to a gun. On July 16, 2021, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8C, has experienced a mass shooting which took the life of a six-year-old girl and injured five other people.

The current approach the justice system often takes to this violence, frequently destabilizes neighborhoods, and damages police-community relations. We have learned that gun violence prevention requires a holistic set of solutions. Reducing a person's access to firearms is but a small part of the solution. What is needed is a comprehensive strategy that will also require improving police-community relations. The safest communities are not the communities with the most law enforcement, but the ones with the most resources. There must be a significant investment in community services, coupled with community leadership in violence prevention efforts.

Therefore, at a duly noticed meeting on August 4, 2021, with a quorum present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8C voted unanimously to make the following legislative and

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budget recommendations to the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Council of the District of Columbia:

1. Create mandatory conflict resolution classes at the elementary, middle, and high school level for all charter, DCPS, and private school children.
2. Establish more vocational and entrepreneurship classes at the high school academic level
3. Increase the budget of the Department of Behavioral Health to have six permanently dedicated mobile crisis units in Wards Seven and Eight.
4. Develop parenting classes, trainings, and support groups for Ward 8 residents 35 years of age and younger, within the Department of Health.
5. Increase the Department of Health budget to build a naturopathic substance abuse/drug addiction rehabilitation center in Ward 8.

The residents of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8C recognize that these five areas will not eliminate gun violence, nor prevent all violent crimes from happening. However, if implemented and adequately funded, they will increase the likelihood of creating a safer and healthier community. Thus, reducing crime and gun violence.

Respectfully,

Salim Adofo

Salim Adofo,
Chairperson
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8C

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